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File 214

CLASSIFICATION <u>SECRET/CONFIDENTIAL/NO FOREIGN DISSEM</u>		
COUNTRY <u>Soviet Zone of Germany</u>	REPORT NO. <u></u>	25X1
TOPIC <u>Airport-Bindersleben Airfield</u>		25X1
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25X1	EVALUATION <u></u>	25X1
25X1	PLACE OBTAINED <u></u>	
DATE OF CONTENT <u></u>		
25X1	DATE OBTAINED <u></u>	DATE PREPARED <u>20 September 1950</u>
REFERENCES <u></u>		
PAGES <u>3</u> ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) <u></u>		
REMARKS <u></u>		
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- 25X1 ☐ 1. Forty-nine aircraft were counted at Airport-Bindersleben (N 51/J 26) airfield on 13 July 1950. The planes had two radial engines, three-bladed propellers, single rudder assemblies, wings with tapering leading edges and straight trailing edges. There were seven windows and one entrance hatch on the sides of the fuselage. An antenna rod connected with the rudder assembly by a double wire was on the roof of the cockpit, in front of which was a set resembling a searchlight. The rudder assemblies were painted red, blue, green or yellow. A plane with red rudder assembly a blue one and two planes with yellow rudder assemblies (1) About 35 Soviet soldiers were standing around each of the landed planes. The soldiers were later taken by trucks towards Erfurt. All the 49 planes took off about 3 p.m. in wedge formations of seven planes, heading east. Twenty-two planes of the same type landed in Bindersleben on 26 July 1950. They approached from the east flying in wedge formations of seven planes.
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- 25X1 2. Only take-offs and landings were practiced at the field from 26 through 30 July 1950. Aircraft took part in this training. A radio truck with an extended antenna was standing at the field during the maneuvers.
3. About six soldiers jumped from a plane over the field about 2:30 p.m. on 31 July 1950. They used white parachutes and wore dark-green flying suits. These jumps were observed twice. (2) Local residents said that similar jumps were made on 1 August 1950.
4. Twenty-two aircraft headed toward Herschberg (N 52/J 91) were seen over Weimar (N 51/J 57) about 9:20 a.m. on 4 August 1950. In Erfurt it was learned that 22 planes landed in Bindersleben at 2:30 a.m. Those planes were still at the field on 5 August 1950.
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Document No. <u>6</u>
No Change in Class. <input type="checkbox"/>
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Auth.: HR 70-2
Date: <u>1 Aug 78</u> By: <u></u>

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5. Twenty-one twin-engine planes took off from the field on 7 August 1950. They flew eastward in wedge formations of seven planes. On the same day twenty-one planes landed, coming from the east. In addition to the twin-engine planes which were painted silver with a yellow rudder assembly, dark green cargo gliders were seen at the field. The gliders had an estimated capacity of 30 to 40 men. (3) Fifteen pyramidal tents with a capacity of 10 men and some four-man tents for about 40 men were pitched on the southern edge of the field.

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6. A twin-engine plane towed a cargo glider over Erfurt on 9 August 1950.
7. Twenty-five twin-engine planes were seen at Hinderleben airfield on 30 July 1950. Pyramidal tents were pitched beside the planes. Local residents said that the field was recently again put into operation.
8. Two planes, each towing a cargo glider, were seen over Erfurt about 7:30 a.m. on 7 August 1950. Formation flying of three squadrons of seven planes each was also observed. The squadrons were flying in the following formation:

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Parachutists jumped from the cargo gliders over the field. The occupation was the same as on 4 July 1950. About 30 men standing near the aircraft wore flying suits. A tank truck [redacted] was standing on the landing field. (4) The occupation of the field had not changed on 10 August 1950.

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- (1) Comments. [redacted] The reported occupation of the field is probably correct [redacted] It is believed that the field was only temporarily occupied in connection with the army maneuvers as in 1949. [redacted] it is assumed that the air transport unit is the transport regiment from Altenburg. [redacted]

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regiment from Altenburg, another transport regiment may have participated in the maneuvers. This assumption is supported by the number of planes mentioned [redacted] which is higher than the number of planes assigned to one regiment. From the description the aircraft are assumed to be Li-2s. [redacted]

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[redacted] the transport regiment in Altenburg temporarily left its home field. [redacted]

(2) Planes of the transport regiment in Altenburg were previously used for parachute jumps. It is not known what units participated in this training.

(3) The use of cargo gliders by the transport regiment in Altenburg was reported [redacted]

(4) [redacted]

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